

REMARKS

The Office Action dated April 21, 2006 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 1-6 are pending, with claim 1 being the only independent claim. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication that claims 2-6 would be allowable if rewritten so as not to depend from a rejected claim, and with no change in scope. Claims 2-6 have not been so rewritten because, for the reasons given below, their base claim is believed to be allowable.

The Examiner has objected to Figures 1 and 3-4 under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because "the proper labels or legend corresponding to all blocks must be provided. Any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing" (Para. 1 of Office Action, lines 1-4). In response, Applicant respectfully submits that all blocks are labeled and such structural detail is depicted in Figures 1 and 3-4 as filed. Further, Applicant submits that items labeled in these figures are adequately described in the corresponding sections of the specification.

It is unclear what labels or additional structural detail is required for a proper understanding of the invention. Applicant requests that should any additional detail be required, the Examiner be more specific as to the particular deficiencies.

The specification has been objected to for lacking section headings. Applicant respectfully submits that 37 CFR §1.77(b) discloses a *suggested* format for the arrangement of the disclosure. Applicant respectfully submits that the present disclosure follows the suggested format where applicable. With regard to 37 CFR§1.77(c), which was not cited in the Office Action, Applicant respectfully submits that section headings are suggested but not required, as 37 CFR §1.77(c) clearly states the sections defined in paragraphs (b) (1) through (b) (11) "should" be preceded by a section heading. Applicants respectfully decline at this time to amend the disclosure to include same.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 4,163,256 (Adcock).

Applicant respectfully disagrees with, and explicitly traverses, the examiner's reason for rejecting the claims.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to more clearly delineate the features of the invention. Claim 1 as amended recites:

An arrangement which can be activated for an operating time, the arrangement comprising:
a modular unit that can be started and stopped,
stopping means which are designed for stopping the started modular unit, the stopping means comprising:
delay means which are designed for delaying the stopping of the modular unit in accordance with a run-out time during the operating time of the arrangement, and
changing means which are designed for changing the run-out time.

Adcock teaches an electronic photography system for recording and subsequently displaying still life pictures. The Examiner referenced col. 6 lines 43-64 of Adcock as teaching various features of claim 1. This passage states:

The scan circuitry 58 and the motor assembly 60 are coupled so that during one revolution of the tape head (exclusive of the gap 66) the scan circuitry 58 is effective to completely scan the transducer 49. Thus one frame of information, i.e., one picture, is recorded on the magnetic tape. For a tape head speed of 60 RPMs, another picture could not be taken for one second. The AND gate 56 is effective to preclude operation of the shutter until the previous signal is recorded on the tape. After the picture is recorded, advance tape circuitry 70 in conjunction with tape rotate motor 72 advances a new portion of tape from the cassette by the coupling 73. When a picture is taken, a signal from the AND gate 56 is applied to delay circuitry 74. **The signal is delayed a sufficient time to enable recordation of the picture on the tape, and then the signal enables the advance tape circuitry 70 and tape rotate motor 72 for positioning a new portion of tape for the next picture [emphasis added].**

Adcock does not teach or imply that *there is a stopping means that is delayed*. Adcock, as noted in the passage above, merely synchronizes the operation of recording a signal with the mechanism which advances the recording medium. Adcock arguably teaches a stopping means that persists for a delay period to accomplish this synchronization. This is clearly distinguishable from the language of claim 1 wherein the stopping means is itself delayed.

Further, Adcock fails to teach or imply that *there is a delaying means which delays the stopping of the unit in accordance with a run-out time*. In fact, Adcock is completely

silent as to any feature related to run-out times. The present invention addresses numerous advantages realized by incorporating run-out time considerations in the delaying means (e.g., paragraphs 0006 and 0007). None of these advantages are remotely possible with the synchronization feature of Adcock referenced by the examiner.

Still further, Adcock fails to teach or imply that there is *a changing means which is designed for changing the run-out time*. The examiner submits that Adcock permits "the user [to] manually change the run-out time" (paragraph 5, last line of the Office Action). Applicant submits that the passages of Adcock cited by the examiner fail to teach this feature. Applicant respectfully requests more specific information as to what the examiner finds in Adcock that correlates with the run-out time feature described in the present invention.

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element recited therein is expressly or inherently described in a single prior art reference. Adcock cannot be said to anticipate the present invention, because Adcock fails to disclose each and every element recited. As shown, Adcock fails to disclose the limitations of "a delay means which is designed for delaying the stopping of the modular unit in accordance with a run-out time" and "a changing means which is designed for changing the run-out time" as are recited in claim 1.

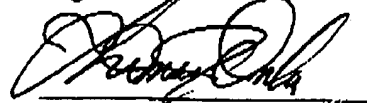
Having shown that Adcock fails to disclose each and every element claimed, Applicant submits that the reason for the examiner's rejection of the claim has been overcome and can no longer be sustained. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claim.

With regard to claims 2-6, these claims ultimately depend from claim 1, which has been shown to be not anticipated and allowable in view of the cited references. Accordingly, claims 2-6 are also allowable by virtue of their dependence from an allowable base claim.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all the present claims are patentable in view of the cited references. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Piotrowski
Registration No. 42,079



By: Thomas Onka
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 42,053

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Mail all correspondence to:
Dan Piotrowski, Registration No. 42,079
US PHILIPS CORPORATION
P.O. Box 3001
Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510-8001
Phone: (914) 333-9624
Fax: (914) 332-0615

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Thomas J. Onaka
(Name of Registered Rep.)

Thomas J. Onaka 7/19/06
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